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State. The officials of the Government of India concerned with the selection of sites have since visited several areas in this State including Tiruchirappalli district and the report on the result of their investigations is still awaited."

Central Road Traffic Board

* 1216 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state how many cases were decided in 1954 by the Central Road Traffic Board where only a single member participated at the meeting?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" One hundred and seven cases, Sir."

Sago Industry

* 1217 *Q.*—Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the Salem District Chamber of Commerce stating that a crisis is facing the Sago Industry; and

(*b*) the steps taken by the Government to give protection to this industry?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The following steps have been taken by this Government in this regard :—

(1) The Government of India and the Government of West Bengal have been addressed for the release of the sago bags seized by the Calcutta Corporation and the removal of the ban imposed on Salem sago by the West Bengal Government.

(2) This Government have amended the relevant rules to secure that ' Sago ' is defined as globules manufactured from tapioca starch also.

(3) This Government have requested the Government of India to publish the ' Report on the present position of the sago industry in Salem district ' prepared by a team of experts headed by the Director, Central Food Technological Institute, Mysore, to arrange for the laying down of proper standards for the product and for setting up of a testing laboratory to ensure that the products conform to the standards laid down."

Relief of distress in Nattika firka

* 1218 *Q.*—Sri K. C. GOPALAN UNNI (on behalf of Sri P. K. Gopalakrishnan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any amount was allotted from the Prime Minister's Fund for relief in Nattika firka, Malabar;

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(*b*) whether any amount is left unspent from it; and

(*c*) if so, the amount and the reasons for not spending it?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) No amount was allotted from the Prime Minister's Fund for relief of of distress in Nattika Firka *alone*. But a sum of Rs. 5,000 was received from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund for the relief of distress in the cholera-affected area of Ponnani taluk.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Yes. The unspent amount of Rs. 1,490–12–8 was originally proposed to be utilized along with the sum of Rs. 9,000 received from the Manapuram Famine Relief Committee, Colombo, for organizing Coir Workers' Co-operative Societies in Nattika Firka. But the Registrar of Co-operative Societies was not in favour of forming more Coir Co-operative Societies. Hence, revised proposals were submitted by the Collector of Malabar for utilizing the sum of Rs. 9,000 received from Ceylon for carrying out repairs to houses damaged by rains, for free supply of clothes to the poor and needy and for affording other kinds of relief to the people in Nattika Firka. These proposals have been approved by the Government recently. The sum of Rs. 1,499–12–8 will be spent for relief of distress in Ponnani taluk."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Questions over."

[*Note*.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MOTION UNDER RULE 40 OF THE ASSEMBLY RULES *RE* FAILURE TO MAKE ALTERATIONS OF PLANS PERTAINING TO PULLAMBADI CHANNEL AND TO CONSTRUCT A PERMANENT KORAMBU IN THE CAUVERY AT THE HEAD OF AYYAN AND PERUVALAI CHANNELS.

9-30 a.m. * SRI N. RAJAGOPALAN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to call the attention of the Hon. the Minister for Public Works to a matter of urgent public importance, viz.—

' (*a*) the failure or negligent attitude of the Government to make suitable alterations in the plans and estimates prepared for the proposed Pullambadi channel in Lalgudi taluk, Tiruchirappalli district, so as to give irrigation facilities to the peasants living in the upper region and thus causing disturbance of peace in the Kadarambam villages situated in the firkas of Pulivalam, Musiri taluk, Kariamanickam and Mannachanallur firkas of Lalgudi taluk, Tiruchirappalli district; and

(*b*) the failure or negligent attitude of the Government to take necessary steps to construct a permanent Korambu in Cauvery river at the head of Ayyan and Peruvalai channels in the Lalgudi taluk, Tiruchirappalli district, just above the Upper Anicut and thus causing great loss to ayacutdars.' "